

Interagency Committee for Outdoor
Recreation

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STATE OF WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE

1111 Washington Street SE
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

May 18, 2004

TO: Interagency Committee Members & Designees
NOVA Advisory Committee Members
Others Interested in Outdoor Recreation

FROM: Laura Johnson, Director

**SUBJECT: MAY IAC MEETING FORMAT and
REVISED Staff Recommendation, Agenda Item #3**

After reviewing various options to use meeting time efficiently and to maintain a quorum for the May IAC meeting, IAC Chair Val Ogden has asked our office to notify interested parties of a change in the meeting's format. Revised staff recommendations for IAC consideration at the session are presented below.

TIME AND PLACE: The meeting will be held at the time and place previously announced, 10 am, Friday May 21, 2004, Room 172 of the Natural Resources Building, Olympia, WA. Several IAC Board members will participate by telephone conference call. The meeting is now scheduled to end not later than 11 a.m.

AGENDA: As indicated in the previously published agenda, the IAC Board will review and act on consent calendar items. In the interest of time, Agenda Item #2 (Management Reports) will not be presented although staff will be available to respond to questions. The primary item of business will be Agenda Item #3, to receive and act on recommendations regarding the Thurston County ORV Sports Park.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Brief written or in-person comments will be accepted. There will be a speakerphone in the meeting room at the Natural Resources Building, open for all to listen. Persons can fill out a regular testimony card so the Chair will be aware if someone wants to testify from this location. Written comments are encouraged and will be accepted through May 20, 2004. (To ensure materials can be copied and transmitted to IAC Board members, written materials should be in the IAC office by not later than noon on May 20th.)

All meeting materials are being posted on the agency website at <http://www.iac.wa.gov/iac/board/agendas.html>.

AGENDA ITEM #3, REVISED STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

On May 17, 2004, the office of the IAC received a letter to the IAC Chair from the Thurston County Board of County Commissioners which states in pertinent part:

“...a majority of the [Thurston] Board would like to reaffirm the position stated in our February 27, 2004 letter. Should the IAC chose not to approve these conditions in full, we would respectfully ask that both parties move rapidly toward full termination...” (Copy attached.)

As outlined in Approach #1 of the May 10 IAC staff memo, the County’s February 2004 request presents numerous fiscal and legal concerns. Therefore, staff does not recommend approval “in full” of the conditions as outlined in the County’s February letter.

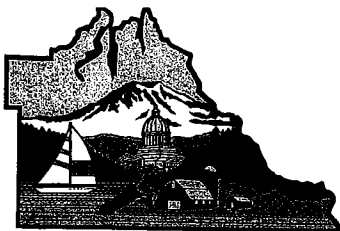
Because it is clear that the possible option presented as Alternative #2 in the IAC staff memo is not viable without County participation, staff recommends this alternative be removed from further consideration by the IAC¹.

Staff further recommends that the IAC declare its intent to proceed to a judicial determination of the rights and responsibilities under the various contracts between the State and the County. This would include an IAC motion to authorize the Office of the Attorney General to take such actions as may be necessary to represent the state and public interests in this matter. At the July IAC meeting, we will schedule an executive session with our attorney to provide additional information and updates.

We look forward to the IAC’s discussion on the 21st. Please contact Scott Chapman if you have additional comment or materials for the IAC meeting. He can be reached at scottc@iac.wa.gov , or voicemail at 360-902-3017, or fax at 360-902-3026.

Attachment

¹ The office has received extensive public comments on the options, especially Alternative #2. Summaries will be provided under separate cover to IAC members, and will be available at the meeting site and online at the IAC website.



THURSTON COUNTY

WASHINGTON

SINCE 1852

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Cathy Wolfe

District One

Diane Oberquell

District Two

Robert N. Macleod

District Three

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

May 14, 2004

Ms. Val Ogden, Chair

Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation

1111 Washington Street S.E.

P.O. Box 40917

Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

Subject: Thurston County ORV Sports Park

Dear Ms. Ogden:

Thank you for the timely delivery of Ms. Laura Johnson's May 10, 2004 memorandum to the Interagency Committee (IAC) regarding the Thurston County ORV Sports Park. We have had an opportunity to review the three options presented and appreciate the time and energy Ms. Johnson and her staff have devoted to this matter.

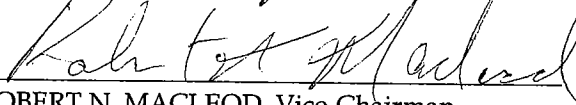
In late February 2004, the Thurston County Board of County Commissioners presented a list to the IAC containing the minimum conditions necessary in order for us to properly operate the Sports Park. These conditions were offered not as an opening salvo to negotiations, but rather as our bottom line requirements for which we would need a firm commitment from the IAC in order to consider reopening the facility. We were disappointed that the IAC chose to pursue mediation instead of acting on, and submitting a response to our proposal.

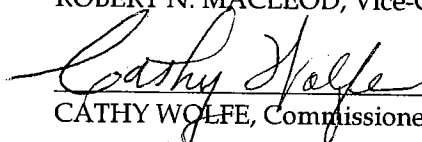
In late April, Commissioner Oberquell was invited to attend a meeting with staff from State Parks, DNR and IAC to discuss a proposal developed by Representative Cary Condotta. Subsequently, Commissioner Oberquell shared this proposal with the Board of County Commissioners and some County staff. After reviewing the proposal, a majority of the Board reaffirmed the minimum conditions stated in our February 27, 2004 letter to the IAC.

As the IAC considers the ORV Sports Park at its May 21, 2004 meeting, a majority of the Board would like to reaffirm the position stated in our February 27, 2004 letter. Should the IAC choose not to approve these conditions in full, we would respectfully ask that both parties move rapidly toward full termination as outlined in Approach #3 of Ms. Johnson's memorandum to you.

Sincerely,


DIANE OBERQUELL, Chairman


ROBERT N. MACLEOD, Vice-Chairman


CATHY WOLFE, Commissioner



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MAY 17 2004
INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE
FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION